

Tuesday Morning, January 17, 1882

A Tragedy.

A correspondent writing from Vienna says: I can not close this letter without chronicling a tragic event which took place recently. It was on the North frontiers of this Empire, over a great Saxony, the scene an inn, time, evening. Many old customers of the place were assembled in their snug room, with its time polished tables, its tall tiled stove, its amazing pictures of saints and angels. Beer enough to float an iron-clad, wine enough to intoxicate a continent, had been served out in that place since its first dedication to Bacchus two centuries ago. To-night the worship of the wine-crowned deity was proceeding as merrily as usual, and the air was thick with tobacco smoke, when a man with a sleeping child in his arms slouched in and sat down in the corner. He drank a glass or two of beer, while the child, a golden-haired little fellow of about five years, rested his head on the table and went on with his nap. The jolly toppers soon forgot all about the stranger, who, after awhile, desired to be shown to his room, as he wished to put his son to bed. But soon after an angry dispute was heard without. At the foot of the stairs, the father, using shocking language, the child whining piteously: Father, father, you know I have been unable to go upstairs by myself ever since I broke my leg. "Nonsense," exclaimed the man menacingly, "you can get up very well if you choose, and, besides you have only yourself to thank for your broken leg—up you go, or I will beat you black and blue," and he administered a cruel blow to the cripple. Several of the guests had come out in the passage, and now remonstrated vehemently with his brutal father. "Is that your child, you monster?" asked one. "What's that to you, he was the answer. "Yes, oh, yes, he is my father," moaned the boy, as he sat helpless on the stairs, and rocked himself in an agony of tears. The man became still more enraged, and would, doubtless, have belabored his son had not persons present laid hold of him, exclaiming: "Cease your brutality, or we fetch the police." But this only had effect of throwing the father in a real paroxysm of rage. He drew a knife, and struggled frantically. "Take care, take care," screamed the boy, "he will rip us all up same as he did my poor mother." "Little fiend," yelled the father, and, freeing himself with a great effort, he buried the knife in the child's body. The poor little soul sank down with a groan. A shout of indignation came from the others, who rushed at him en masse; but the man, taking his hat off politely, said with a winning smile: "Gentlemen, we have here to do with a wooden child. I am a ventriloquist—and no mean one, either, as you admit." A pause of speechless astonishment, during which could have been heard dropping of a traditional pin, and then the rafter shook with prolonged (Homeric) laughter. The clever deceiver was dragged into the parlor, where, besides exhibiting many a funny trick of the voice, he took much more wine than was good for him, and finally rolled off to bed with his pockets full of money and his murdered child smiling blandly under his arm.

A number of years ago a rich man, as eccentric as he was benevolent, died in Philadelphia, leaving a will, in which he laid a solemn injunction upon his children that so long as they lived they should see the old year out and the new in at the foot of his coffin. The children are scattered through many States, from Vermont to Nebraska, but they never violate their father's injunction, and last Saturday, a few minutes before midnight they assembled, as usual, in the family vault in Laurel Hill Cemetery. Four of those upon whom this grim sentence was laid are dead and the survivors constitute a strange and mournful group as they carry out their father's solemn behest.

A NEW MAN—DIVERSITY CURED.—HARTWELL, Ga., Feb. 10, 1881.—I want to say a good word for Brown's Iron Bitters. I am about sixty years of age; have warehouse, railroad, and newspaper work to do. I have been taking—and various other kinds of whiskeys to give me an appetite, and the only appetite I got was one for drink. Rev. Mr. Anderson, the presiding elder for the district, stopped with me not long ago, suffering dreadfully with dyspepsia. I got him Brown's Iron Bitters. They cured him. After he left, I concluded to take that remaining in the bottle, and I assure you it has made a new man out of me. I have no desire for stimulants, and I believe I could eat a pair of old boots and digest them as easily as rice. (From the Hon. J. H. Benson, Hart Co., Ga.)

The city of Richmond, Va., generously remunerates its physicians with seven cents for each child vaccinated.

Peculiar Weddings.
Numerous peculiar weddings are happening nowadays. A girl at Courtland, N. C., was locked in a room by a father, who chained a savage bulldog under the window; but her lover poisoned the dog, pried open her window, and carried her to a clergyman.
Mrs. Reeder, on the death of her husband, in Baltimore, received the following letter from Franklin Broiler, of Carroll, Mo.: "I have just heard the news. Will you marry me now? Enclosed find \$100 to bring you and your children here. Broiler and Mrs. Reeder had been engaged before the war; but an uncontradicted report that he had been killed in battle, led her to marry another man. When he found that he had lost her, he went West and waited twenty years to renew the courtship. She said yes.
Old Edgerton, of Bellevue, Iowa, decided to get rid of his wife and marry a younger woman. This he accomplished by means of an irregular divorce and with the consent of the original wife, who remains in the Edgerton establishment as housekeeper, while the bride plays the idle lady.
A Nashville girl being forbidden to marry her lover, promised obedience, but one day requested her father to hand her pastor a note on his way to business. Thus he was unsuspectingly led to deliver the invitation to the clergyman to call at once and perform the prohibited ceremony, and the latter, presuming that parental consent had been obtained, readily obeyed the summons.
Miss Emma Abbott, the prima-donna, arrived in St. Louis on Saturday quite ill, and a surgeon was called in to alleviate her suffering. It appears that a couple of weeks ago, while playing in Chicago, the lady became alarmed at the presence of small-pox in that city, and concluded to be vaccinated. Although as a general thing this operation is not a very serious one, the lady dreaded it from the fact that it would for a time disfigure her shapely arm, and as that must be exposed almost every evening, it would never do to think of such a thing for a moment. But if not on the arm, where? A council was held with her husband, and it was finally decided that the operation should be performed on the—oh, horror of horrors—left limb, and—oh, that we should live to tell it—above the knee. This was done, and as the vaccine commenced in a short time to perform its duty the aforesaid left limb commenced to become inflamed and very troublesome, so much so that the lady had to give up her acting for a few days, but she had recovered enough to leave with the troupe for Louisville.

The following is a copy of a postal card written to Lotta by one of Atlanta's school girls: "Beautiful Lotta!—Do, pray, please, give a matinee and play 'Bob' in Atlanta. So many of us girls want dreadfully to see you, but can't get \$3 at a time in pin money. If you give a matinee, fifty-cent one, I just declare you would have the biggest house on record. Now, wont you, splendid, glorious, jolly, rollicking, smashing, darling, bewitching, Lotta! Then you have the blessing of a thousand school girls who have not any beans to foot the bill at the opera-house."
"Why do you insist on my marrying you, instead of a clergyman?" rather irritably inquired Judge Hunt of man who had been waiting at the Judge's chambers all day, with a license in one hand and a woman in the other. "Well, Judge," said the bridegroom, with a cautious wink, as he leaned over and whispered in the Court's ear, "you see women are so condemned onerous nowadays, that I thought I'd just open an account where I might get credit in case I should have to have a divorce some time when business was bad."

Bishop Bloomfield, who has been a widower and had several children, married a second time a widow with a family. One day he asked a country clergyman to dine with him, telling him, "you will only meet our family party." The clergyman found a much larger number assembled in the drawing-room than he had anticipated, and was introduced by the Bishop thus: "These are mine, these are hers, and those are ours."

Dr. Bliss has had a consultation with the other Garfield Surgeons with a view of presenting their claims for services to Congress. It is understood that Dr. Bliss will get \$50,000 for himself, \$25,000 for Agnew, \$25,000 for Hamilton, \$5,000 for Ryerburn, \$1,000 for Boynton and Elson each, as nurses. Woodward and Barnes being officers of the United States, cannot receive direct recompense, and will be promoted.

The Atlanta (Ga.) Exposition building has been bought for \$25,000 by T. H. Rice and B. H. Richards, who will organize a joint stock company at once to fill the building with machinery for manufacturing cotton.

How to Make the Farm Pay.
The Western Agriculturist: It will pay to thoroughly understand farming, and make a business of it. It will pay to take agricultural papers and magazines, and read and digest their contents. It will pay to continually improve your stock, and to improve on your manner of farming. It will pay to systematize your work. It will pay to buy labor-saving machines, and it will pay to take care of them when not in use. It pays to raise those products which will find quick sale at good prices near home. It pays to get a name for selling the best; to keep good stock of all kinds, as poor stock of any kind leaves no profit; to keep down the weeds; to have some articles to sell every time you go to market, and to buy what you really need in the improved seeds. It pays to have more to sell than to buy. It pays to have fine poultry, cattle, hogs, sheep, bees, fine improved wheat, corn, oats and hay. It pays to make home attractive, give the children all the schooling possible, and it pays to be a good house-keeper, thinking farmer.
OMAHA is the dog-gonest city in America. Three thousand of the beasts roam at will through the streets and howl forth their hideous songs of praise or something, unmolested through the dark and silent watches of the night. The sign, "Beware of the Dog" can be seen upon hundreds of gateways, placed there that he who reads may run. Residents of neighboring cities affirm that they can always tell an Omaha man by the patch on the equator of his breeches, which marks the spot where the festive purp has reached for dry goods and proud flesh. It is indeed a cursed city.—[Religious Editor Detroit Free Press.]
And now comes President Arthur. His own party fear lest he follow in the footsteps of Grant, and draw about him a spotted Cabinet more intent upon depouling the Treasury and appropriating public lands than honestly administering Government for the best interests of the country. There is some anticipation that the President will call into his Cabinet one Aaron A. Sargent, who in Congress behaved so badly that his constituents in California burned him in effigy; himself the most notorious railroad and land-grabber ever sent from the Pacific coast to Washington.—[Jamestown Standard.]
A more ill-assorted couple than Mr. and Mrs. Lindsey J. Hoagland, of Providence, could hardly be imagined. He is a white boy, his parents stating his age at 16 and her at 19, while she is a negress of 25, and by no means a prepossessing specimen of her race. They eloped, and were married by a negro preacher. The husband's parents have had him arrested on a charge of vagrancy, in the hope of separating him permanently from his wife, but he declares that he will return to her at the earliest opportunity.

One Sunday evening a well-known revivalist preached from the text, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" In the audience there was an engineer named Saul, accompanied by his wife and little girl. The reverend gentleman repeated his text several times, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" At last the daughter of Saul, thinking that the text had a personal application, looked up into the face of her father and said, "Don't mind him, father, he's been drinking."

EXPECTANCY OF LIFE.—Life insurance companies have, by the close study of vital statistics, come to the following conclusions as to what may be expected of the continuance of life: A person 1 year old may expect to live 39 years longer; of 10 years, 51; of 20 years, 41; of 30 years, 34; of 40 years, 28; of 50 years, 21; of 60 years, 14; of 70 years, 9; of 80 years, 4.
A Deadwood man saw another reach for his hip pocket, thought the fellow meant to draw a revolver on him, so shot him dead. Then he found that the man was about to draw a flask to treat, and much regretted his hasty act. But he remarked that the last wishes of the deceased should be carried out, so he took a drink from the flask.
Poverty is uncomfortable, as I can testify; but nine times out of ten the best thing that can happen to a young man is to be tossed overboard and compelled to sink or swim for himself. In all my acquaintances I never knew a man to be drowned who was worth the saving.—[James A. Gamfield.]
When Talmage says: "Oh! nonsense!" he is meaning to swear just as much as any man who says "dammit." Fact is, no one means to swear. The idea is to forcibly express thought.
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